



City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2026 6:00 PM

Council Chambers - 20201 E. Jackson Drive

INVOCATION

1. The invocation will be given by Tim Allison, Chaplain of the Visiting Nurse Association Hospital.

Dan O'Neill gave the invocation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Mayor Kevin King, Presiding Officer of the City Council, called the meeting to order. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Brice Stewart, Jennie Vaught, John Perkins, Heather Wiley, Cody Atkinson, and Jackie Dorman. Absent – None.

PROCLAMATIONS

There were no proclamations.

CITIZEN REQUESTS

Mark Graber spoke on behalf of CSL regarding Independence TOGETHER.
Cindi Rogers spoke about Santa Cali-Gon
Steve Dean spoke on the amendment to Chapter 14.
Mark Mangels spoke about historic sites.
Daniel Moorehead spoke about the UDO Amendment Changes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Reports and Recommendations of the City Manager

Councilmember Perkins moved to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Councilmember Atkinson.

Items pulled for special consideration:

#1 by CM Dorman, #5 by CM Atkinson, #8 by CM Perkins, and #10 by CM Wiley

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Consent agenda minus items pulled for special consideration passes 7-0

1. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to issue a purchase order(s) to RubinBrown, LLP in the amount of \$170,300, and authorizing change orders of up to ten (10%) of the authorized amount, subject to annual budget appropriations, for the annual audit services for Fiscal Year Ending 2026. **Item passes 7-0**

Councilmember Dorman moved to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Perkins.

This item was pulled for special consideration by CM Dorman. She asked when the city last did a competitive bid for an outside audit. Director of Finance, Melissa Cabrera stated it was last done in 2019. The city typically does this every 5-6 years but due to staff changes in leadership, this has fallen a little behind. They are working on getting a bid out for this.

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

2. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to issue a blanket purchase order(s) to WEX Bank in the amount of \$150,000 for fuel purchase, and authorizing up to ten percent (10%) of the authorized amount for future change orders, to support the Fire Department in Fiscal Year 2026-2027. **Approved**
3. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to issue a purchase order(s) in the amount of \$200,000 to MacQueen for turnout gear, and authorizing up to ten percent (10%) of the authorized amount for future change orders, to support Fire Department personnel in the Fiscal Year 2026-2027. **Approved**
4. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to issue a change order to TC Fuller Construction, LLC in the amount of \$21,643.40 for the parking lot project at Fire Station 1. **Approved**

5. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to issue a purchase order to Life Scan Wellness Centers in the amount of \$181,000 for mandatory physicals, and authorizing up to ten percent (10%) of the authorized amount for future change orders, to support the Fire Department in Fiscal Year 2026-2027. **Item passes 7-0**

Councilmember Atkinson moved to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wiley.

This item was pulled for special consideration by CM Atkinson. Chief Walker of the Independence Fire Department stated this is for their life scan physicals. These are full and complete physicals including lung x-rays and full ultrasounds on the entire body to check for all ailments that can occur in the course of being a firefighter. In the last four years they have caught a major health problem including cancer, every year with these physicals. These physicals are specifically designed and tailored for firefighters due to the risks and exposures to certain carcinogens that come with fighting fires.

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

6. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the Independence Chamber of Commerce for the license of the Independence Square public area for the Santa-Cali-Gon Festival. **Approved**
7. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to accept a grant from Mid-America Regional Council in the amount of \$52,000 for the City's Senior Adult Nutrition Site Program for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, and execute the Community Center Services Agreement; making the necessary appropriations; authorizing future change orders for additional funding and/or time extensions; and, authorizing certain future appropriations. **Approved**
8. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a design services contract with, and issue a purchase order to, Cochran Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$410,060, and authorizing a ten percent (10%) contingency of the authorized amount, as part of the Square Streetscape Phase 2 Project (No. 111902-1). **Item postponed to 9/8/26 7-0**

Councilmember Perkins moved to postpone this item to September 8th. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dorman.

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item is postponed to September 8th 7-0

9. Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a design services contract with, and issue a purchase order to, Burns & McDonnell for an amount not to exceed \$130,000, and authorizing a ten percent (10%) contingency of the authorized amount, for the Wellfield Overhead Electrical Improvements Project (No. 402008) at the Courtney Bend Water Treatment Plant. **Approved**
10. Council action is requested allow the City Manager to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with, and issue a purchase order for \$100,000 to the Community Services League (CSL) as part of a commitment to "Independence TOGETHER". **Item passes 7-0**

Councilmember Wiley moved to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Perkins.

This item was pulled for special consideration by CM Wiley. This is a fantastic program and she would like to see the city invest more in this program. CM Perkins said the program was implemented in 2023. It has been exciting to see the success that it has had in helping homeless folks to get a step up.

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

1. A public hearing for the amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance, Chapter 14, of the Independence City Code relating to Data Centers & Battery Energy Storage Systems. **Full Public Hearing. Item postponed to 9/8/26 7-0**

Councilmember Stewart moved to postpone this item to September 8th. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dorman.

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Motion passes. Item is postponed to September 8th.

26-072 **2R** An ordinance amending the Unified Development Ordinance, Chapter 14, of the Independence City Code pertaining to data processing and hosting and battery energy storage systems uses. **2R Item postponed to 9/8/26 7-0**

Councilmember Stewart moved to postpone this item to September 8th. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dorman.

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Motion passes. Item is postponed to September 8th.

ORDINANCES

1. 26-057 **2R** An ordinance creating Section 12.05.018 of the Independence City Code for the Prohibition of Unlawfully Gaining Entry into a Motor Vehicle **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19831**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

2. 26-058 **2R** An ordinance amending Chapter 5, Article 10 of the Independence City Code regarding Private Security Guards **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19832**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

3. 26-073 **2R** An ordinance amending ordinance #19723 by repealing and replacing the previously approved legal descriptions for Parcel 1 of the Annual Neighborhood Sanitary Sewer Project (Project No 302004-1). **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19833**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

4. 26-074 **2R** An ordinance authorizing the acceptance of a Mutual Aid Agreement in the amount of \$450,000.00 from KC2026 for Law Enforcement Assistance provided by the Independence, MO Police Department during the FIFA World Cup Events held in Kansas City, Missouri; appropriating the necessary funds in the Police Department Grant Fund; authorizing the acceptance of future change orders, extension, amendments or addendums for additional funding or time extensions for the same project, and authorizing certain future appropriations. **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19834**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

5. 26-076 **2R** An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a sidewalk improvement agreement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the Winner Road Complete Streets Project (Project No. 112403 / Federal Project No. STBG-33479(440)). **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19835**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

6. 26-077 **2R** An ordinance amending Section 12.03.009(A) of the Independence City Code to add subsection (3) to create a Santa-Cali-Gon district curfew over the Labor Day weekend. **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19836**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

7. 26-078 **2R** An ordinance calling an election to authorize the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for the City of Independence, Missouri. **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19837**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

8. 26-079 **2R** An ordinance authorizing persons to hold more than one office within the City. **2R Item passes 7-0 Ord. No. 19838**

AYES (7): Councilmember Stewart, Councilmember Vaught, Councilmember Perkins, Councilmember Wiley, Councilmember Atkinson, Mayor King, Councilmember Dorman

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (0):

Item passes 7-0

FIRST READING(S)

1. 26-080 **1R** An ordinance amending City Code Chapter 16, Article 5, by adding provisions requiring an Energy Services Agreement (ESA) for large load customers served by Independence Power & Light. **1R Read**
2. 26-081 **1R** An ordinance authorizing acceptance of the 2026 Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Kansas City/Overland Park DEA Task Force Initiative, and related documents, with the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, for a grant award in the amount of \$165,015.00; making the necessary appropriations; and authorizing future change orders for additional funding and/or time extensions. **1R Read**
3. 26-082 **1R** An ordinance authorizing acceptance of the 2026 Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Investigative Support Center Initiative, and related documents, with the Kansas Bureau of Investigations, for a grant award in the amount of \$135,054.31; making the necessary appropriations; and authorizing future change orders for additional funding and/or time extensions. **1R Read**
4. 26-083 **1R** An ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute a certain grant agreement in the amount of \$6,000,000 with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission for the 23rd Street Safety & Mobility Improvements Project (Project No. 112601/Federal Project No. STBG-3379(448)) and adopting amendments to the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget, which was approved by ordinance No. 19816. **1R Read**
5. 26-084 **1R** An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 19748 and authorizing the City Manager to execute a certain grant agreement supplement with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission as part of the 23rd Street (M-78) Complete Streets Phase 3 Project (Project No. 112111-3 / Federal Project No. CRP-3379(447)). **1R Read**

6. 26-085 **1R** An ordinance approving a rezoning from District R-6 (Single-Family Residential) to District R-6/PUD (Single-Family Residential/Planned Unit development) and approving a preliminary development plan for the property located at 19901 E. Missouri 78 Highway. **1R Read**

INFORMATION ONLY

1. Municipal Court Report for July 2026
2. **Please Note:** In accordance with RSMo. 610.021, the City Council may convene in a Closed Executive Session during or after the meeting, on matters of litigation, legal action, and/or attorney client communications, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(1), on matters of personnel, as permitted by Sec. 610.021(3) and personnel records, as permitted by 610.021(13), on matters of contracts, as permitted by 610.021(12), on matters of real estate, as permitted by 610.021(2) and/or matters of labor negotiations, as permitted by 610.021(9).

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

CM Dorman said the city is working on a city-wide clean-up September 28th through October 4th. This will be organized with the UMKC Extension. She encouraged citizens to help that week and also if you need or know of someone who needs help, we are starting to make a list and will get them on it. She also let everyone know that the annual skateboard competition is scheduled for September 26th at Hill Park. They are asking for hoodies, sweatshirts and skateboards to be donated along with some gift cards.

CM Atkinson thanked all the volunteers that showed up at the Fairmount Park cleanup. It will tie in nicely with the city-wide cleanup that CM Dorman was just talking about. Unfortunately, a lot of folks feel like this area has become a dumping ground and that the residents end up paying for it in some way, so this is a help to them as well.

CM Wiley also thanked everyone for helping at Fairmount Park. The Truman Library had a groundbreaking ceremony last week for the new landscaping they're doing. They are building a walking trail, outdoor classrooms and picnic areas. The Mayor, Senator Blunt and Congressman Clever attended. The project should be finished next summer.

CM Perkins thanked CM Dorman for organizing the good neighborhood week. Normally, the Northwest cleanup is the first week of June, but with FIFA it was moved to later this year. This fall will be the westside cleanup, which usually involves the Maywood Baptist Church, Englewood Church, Revive Church, and Grace Church. This year we're including Kentucky Hills and the Fairmont Community Center with 40-yard dumpsters available for large items.

Mayor King said he had a great time at the groundbreaking for the Truman Library. One of the things they are adding to this project is a sign stating what the building is. That's never been there showing what the building is. He had a Mayor's breakfast with the students from the Japanese sister city. He thanked CM Dorman, CM Vaught and Representative Will Jobe for

attending. They were very respectful. He took pictures with them in his office and encouraged them to sit in the Mayor's chair. He was given the gift of a male fan. He found out there are two types of fans, a male and a female, so he was given a male fan. He said the kids' two favorite places to visit while here were Target and Taco Bell. He thanked the host families who had them here for two weeks. Last week he attended Shine KC which is an event that recognizes volunteers that coordinate and help the unhoused. There were 55 people honored. It was very humbling to see that many people were interested in trying to help others in a time of need. He also attended the Roots Festival. He got lots of exercise there, going from the north side to the south side listening to the two bands. The first meeting of the small business committee will be this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. There are currently 15 - 20 people interested in coming. If you are interested, please contact Kim Osborne.

City Manager Troy Anderson said they search for the next Police Chief will close at midnight tonight. He is very excited about the number of candidates so far. He is looking forward to the next step in the process.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Presiding Officer of the City Council
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

City Clerk

City of Independence

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Agenda Title:

Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to accept a grant from Mid-America Regional Council in the amount of \$52,000 for the City's Senior Adult Nutrition Site Program for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, and execute the Community Center Services Agreement; making the necessary appropriations; authorizing future change orders for additional funding and/or time extensions; and, authorizing certain future appropriations. **Approved**

Recommendations:

Council approval is recommended.

Background:

Approval of this item will authorize the City Manager to enter into a \$52,000 grant through Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) for the City's Senior Adult Nutrition Site Program, offered through the Parks and Recreation Department's Active Agers Division. The program is offered to area adults, 60 years and over and their spouses, as well as disabled individuals, 18 years and over. Lunches are offered at the Palmer Center, Monday through Friday. Home-delivered meals are available to those individuals that are home-bound and meet program guidelines.

Expenditures were anticipated in the FY2026-2027 Budget.

Emergency Justification:**Fiscal Impact:**

The fiscal impact to the City is \$52,000. Funds for administering the program and frozen home meal delivery for the City's Senior Adult Nutrition Site program will be deposited to 012-3275-MARC and expended from the appropriate Parks and Recreation Department accounts. Revenues and expenditures were included in the FY2026-2027 Adopted Budget.

Council Action:

Department / Contact	Parks, Recreation and Tourism /
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REVIEWERS

Morris Heide
Melissa Cabrera
Jeremy Cover
Lisa Reynolds
Susanne Holland

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Independence City of SFY 27 Agreement

City of Independence

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Agenda Title:

Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a design services contract with, and issue a purchase order to, Cochran Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$410,060, and authorizing a ten percent (10%) contingency of the authorized amount, as part of the Square Streetscape Phase 2 Project (No. 111902-1). **Item postponed to 9/8/26 7-0**

Recommendations:

Council approval is recommended.

Background:

In December 2025, the City was awarded \$500,000 in grant funding through Congressman Cleaver's office via the Community Project Funding (CPF) program facilitated through the US. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the second phase of the Square Streetscape Project.

Staff issued a request for proposals (RFP #26005) from engineering firms that would be able to provide the City with engineering survey and design work necessary for the next phase of the Square Streetscape. Cochran Engineering was selected from 8 proposals after two rounds of proposal reviews, which included presentations to City staff. Their proposal is being recommended for approval of this contract based on their proposal submittal, extensive experience with downtown streetscape projects, quality of the plan sets provided for those projects, and their references.

The Square Streetscape Phase 2 Project (No. 111902-1) will continue streetscape improvements on the blocks immediately adjacent to the Historic Independence Square. The proposed improvements include roadway modifications, sidewalk and lighting improvements, and the implementation of bicycle and pedestrian amenities such as benches, trash cans, and bike racks.

Improved street segments include:

W. Maple Ave from N. Osage St. to Liberty St. and from Main St. to Lynn St.

Lexington Ave. From S. Osage St. to Liberty St, and S. Main St. to Lynn St.

Liberty St. from W. Kansas Ave to Lexington Ave. and W. Maple Ave. to W. Truman Rd.

Main St. from E. Kansas Ave to Lexington Ave., and W. Maple Ave to E. Truman Rd.

This is a budgeted capital project.

Emergency Justification:

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact to the City is \$451,066, including a ten percent (10%) contingency. Funding for the Square Streetscape Projects (No. 111902) is included in the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget, on page 183, in account 111902-C-0517051-5406. Phase II of the project has received an additional \$500,000 in CPF grant funding from HUD. Grant reimbursements will be applied directly to the Street Sales Tax Fund (011).

Council Action:

Department / Contact	Municipal Services /
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REVIEWERS

Mike Jackson
Melissa Cabrera
Jeremy Cover
Lisa Reynolds
Susanne Holland

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Scope and Fee - Cochran Engineering - Square Streetscape Ph 2 - No. 111902-1
2. Contract - Professional Services (AE) - Cochran Engineering - Square Streetscape Ph. 2 - Project No. 111902-1

City of Independence

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Agenda Title:

Council action is requested to authorize the City Manager to execute a design services contract with, and issue a purchase order to, Burns & McDonnell for an amount not to exceed \$130,000, and authorizing a ten percent (10%) contingency of the authorized amount, for the Wellfield Overhead Electrical Improvements Project (No. 402008) at the Courtney Bend Water Treatment Plant. **Approved**

Recommendations:

Council approval is recommended.

Background:

The Courtney Bend Water Treatment Plant requires improvements to its overhead electrical system to address the aging infrastructure and maintain operational reliability. Burns & McDonnell has been selected to complete the engineering design for Phases 1 and 2 of this project, which includes electrical distribution upgrades to eleven groundwater wells. In addition to providing final plans and specifications to issue for construction, they will also provide construction-phase services through submittal reviews and periodic sit visits in support of critical construction activities.

Staff requested proposals from three firms for this project. Only Burns & McDonnell provided a price and was available for this work. Burns & McDonnell is capable of performing this work based on their familiarity with the site, completion of a preliminary design study for this project, and available staff resources.

This is a budgeted capital project.

Emergency Justification:**Fiscal Impact:**

The fiscal impact to the City is \$143,000, including a ten percent (10%) contingency. Funding for the Wellfield Overhead Electrical Improvements Project (No. 402008) is included in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 budget, on page 220, in account 402008-C-4017041-5406

Council Action:

**Department /
Contact**

Municipal Services /

REVIEWERS

Mike Jackson
Melissa Cabrera
Jeremy Cover
Lisa Reynolds
Susanne Holland

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Scope of Service - Burns & McDonnell - Wellfield Overhead Electrical Improvements Design - Project No. 402008
2. Contract - Professional Services (AE) - Burns & McDonnell - Wellfield Overhead Electrical Improvements - Project No. 402008